

What is claimed is:

1. An output time management apparatus comprising:  
time counter for measuring the accumulation time for which a  
object data is outputted by output means,

5        comparator for comparing the upper limit time for which the  
output of said object data is permitted and said accumulation time  
measured by said time counter , and

      controller for controlling the output of said object data on the basis  
of the comparison results by said comparator.

10        2. The output time management apparatus of claim 1 wherein  
said output means is display means for displaying said object data.

      3. The output time management apparatus of claim 1 wherein  
said output means is sound output means for outputting said object data  
by sound.

15        4. The output time management apparatus of claim 1 wherein  
when said accumulation time measured by said time counter reaches  
said upper limit time, said controller erases said object data.

      5. The output time management apparatus of claim 1 wherein  
when said accumulation time measured by said time counter reaches  
20        said upper limit time, said controller stops the output of said object data  
by said output means.

      6. The output time management apparatus of claim 5 wherein said  
object data is data to which can be added writing and,

      the output time management apparatus further comprises storage  
25        means for storing said object data when said accumulation time  
measured by said time counter reaches said upper limit time.

7. The output time management apparatus of claim 6 wherein said object data is which is sent via network and,

the output time management apparatus further comprises receiving means for receiving said object data, and

5 sending means for sending said object data stored by storage means to a distribution source .

8. The output time management apparatus of claim 1 wherein said object data is data sent via network,

10 the output time management apparatus comprises receiving means for receiving said object data and sending means for sending said object data to a distribution source, and

15 wherein when said accumulation time measured by said time counter reaches said upper limit time, said controller suspends the output of said object data by said output means and said sending means sends said object data to the distribution source.

9. The output time management apparatus of claim 1 which further comprises a timer to count time, and

wherein said time counter measures said accumulation time utilizing the time counted by said timer.

20 10. The output time management apparatus of claim 1 which further comprises time information acquisition means for acquiring time information from outside, and

25 wherein said time counter measures said accumulation time by utilizing time information acquired by said time information acquisition means.

11. The output time management apparatus of claim 1 wherein said upper limit time information is embedded in said object data.

12. The output time management apparatus of claim 11 wherein said upper limit time information is embedded in said object data by digital watermark method.

13. The output time management apparatus of claim 1 which  
5 further comprises receiving means for receiving a information to erase or change said upper limit time via network, and

wherein said controller controls the output of said object data by utilizing the information to erase or change said upper limit time received by said receiving means.

10 14. An output time management system comprising:

data sending apparatus for sending at least a object data via network,

data receiving apparatus for receiving said object data from said data sending apparatus,

15 output apparatus for outputting said object data received by said data receiving apparatus,

time counting apparatus for measuring the accumulation time for which said object data is outputted by said output apparatus,

comparison apparatus for comparing the upper limit time for  
20 which the output of said object data is permitted and said accumulation time measured by said time counting apparatus, and

control apparatus for controlling the output of said object data on the basis of the comparison results by said comparison apparatus.

15. An output time management system comprising:

25 storing apparatus for storing a object data and a information of an upper limit time for which the output of said object data is permitted on a storing medium,

reading apparatus for reading said object data and said upper limit time stored on said storing medium,

output apparatus for outputting said object data read by said reading apparatus,

5 time counting apparatus for measuring the accumulation time for which said object data is outputted by said output apparatus,

comparison apparatus for comparing said upper limit time read by said reading apparatus and said accumulation time measured by said time counting apparatus, and

10 control apparatus for controlling the output of said object data on the basis of a comparison result by said comparison apparatus.

16. An output time management method comprising:

time counting step for measuring the accumulation time for which a object data is outputted by output means,

15 comparing step for comparing the upper limit time for which the output of said object data is permitted and said accumulation time measured in said time counting step, and

controlling step for controlling the output of said object data on the basis of a comparison result in said comparing step.

20 17. A program which makes a computer operate as:

time counter for measuring the accumulation time for which a object data is outputted by output means,

25 comparator for comparing the upper limit time for which the output of said object data is permitted and said accumulation time measured by said time counter, and

controller for controlling the output of said object data on the basis of a comparison results by said comparator.